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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment is filed in response to the Rule 312 Communication mailed on September 5, 2003. The Office refused to enter applicant's Amendment under 37 CFR §1.312 because "[c]onsideration of the proposed amendment pursuant to 37 CFR 1.312(a) would require substantial additional work on the part of the Office". (Paper No. 9, page 1). Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added in the amendments and requests entry of the amendments herein.

Specification

In the specification, the title has been amended to reflect the fact that only method claims are pending in the present application.

Paragraph [0001] has been amended to reflect the issuance of a patent to which this application claims priority.

Paragraphs [0005], [0006], [0018] and [0048] have been amended to correct minor editorial problems.

Paragraph [0036] has been amended to refer to the appropriate figures in the application.

Drawings

In amended FIG. 9, the lead line extending to reference numeral -131-- has been shortened to better indicate the bond wire surface.

Claims

Claims 12, 24, 25, 29, 33, 45, 56, 57, 60, 64, 76, 88, 89, 93, 97, 107, 108, 119, 120, 128, 137, 149, 150, 158, 166, 178, 179, 183, 187, 188, 194, 206, 207, 215, 222, 233, 234, 242, 249, 255, 256, 259, 260, 268, 275, 284, 285, 293, 300, 308, 309, 317, 329, 332, 333, 340, 347, 352, 355, 356, 362, 369, 374, 377, 378, 383, 390, 395, 399, 402, 409, 414, 418, and 421 are amended herein. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the claims correct incorrect claim dependency, improper antecedent basis and minor grammatical errors.

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ENTRY OF AMENDMENTS

The amendments to claims above should be entered by the Examiner because the amendments are supported by the as-filed specification and drawings and do not add any new matter to the application.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1 through 421 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, he is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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KWP/ps:ljb

Attachments: Replacement Sheet(s) (drawings)

Annotated Sheet(s) Showing Changes (drawings)

Document in ProLaw